



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE
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KENSINGTON WOMAN INDICTED FOR SECTION 8 HOUSING FRAUD

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono reports that Amy McPherson, age 47, was arraigned before United States District Court Magistrate Judge James Muirhead on a two-count indictment for concealing material facts in an application for Section 8 Housing.

The indictment charges that in February 1999 and July 2000, McPherson provided false information about her personal income to the Exeter, New Hampshire Housing Authority in order to qualify for rental assistance from a housing assistance program that is funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, an agency of the federal government. In particular, the indictment alleges that McPherson failed to reveal that she had an ownership interest in the residence -- 5 Hickory Lane in Kensington, New Hampshire -- for which she received the financial assistance.

If convicted, McPherson faces a maximum prison term of five years and a fine of up to \$250,000. The case was investigated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General. A trial date was scheduled for December 2, 2003.

An indictment is only an allegation and not proof of criminal conduct. As in all criminal cases, the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.